60/021,612, filed July 12, 1996, which applications and patents are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-11.

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 were previously pending in the application. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-11 have been canceled. Accordingly, claims 12-21 are currently pending. In addition, the amendment also adds a Related Applications paragraph. No new matter has been added.

Consideration of the present application in view of the above amendment is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,

Orest W. Blaschuk et al.

Seed Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC

Qing Lin, Ph.D.

(See Limited Recognition in File)

QXL:jab

Enclosures:

Postcard

Response to Notice to File Missing Parts

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

The following paragraph has been inserted at page 1, line 3, before the BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION SECTION:

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/357,717, filed July 20, 1999, now issued as U.S. Pat. No. 6,417,325; which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/248,074, filed February 10, 1999, now issued as U.S. Pat. No. 6,346,412; which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/996,679, filed December 23, 1997, now issued as U.S. Pat. No. 6,169,071; which application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/893,534, filed July 11, 1997, now issued as U.S. Pat. No. 6,031,072; which application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/021,612, filed July 12, 1996, which applications and patents are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

In the Claims:

Claims 1-11 have been canceled.